

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) Apparatus for use in playing a game involving supporting elongate sticks, comprising a main body member having a base defining a base footprint of a first defined footprint area and which body member supporting and restraining a plurality of at least three arms extending therefrom in a direction away from said base and each arm inclined relative to a vertical axis extending through said body member, wherein said base is formed by a plurality of at least three legs extending downwardly from said body member in a direction away from said arms, and wherein each leg is inclined relative to said vertical axis extending through said body member, wherein the legs are not integrally formed with said arms, and wherein ends of each arm remote from said body member define an outer arm area, with said outer arm area being greater than said footprint area.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein said footprint area is adjustable.

4. (Currently amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~either~~ claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1 wherein said outer arm area is adjustable.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein each arm is adjustable into and out of said body member.

8. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein said arms are straight and inclined at an angle of between 30 and 80 degrees relative to said vertical axis.

9. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein at least two arms are inclined at different angles relative to said vertical axis.

10. (Currently amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein said body member comprises a plurality of holes formed therein for receiving a body member engaging end of each arm opposed to said remote end.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein said footprint area is asymmetrically disposed about said vertical axis.

13. (Currently amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim [[2]] 1 wherein said outer arm area is asymmetrically disposed about said vertical axis.

14. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein each of said arms are disposed about said vertical axis so as to have a constant angle between each adjacent arm.

15. (Currently amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein said arms are removeably restrained in said body member.

16. (Currently amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein said base is removeably engaged with said body member.

17. (Original) A system for playing a game comprising the apparatus of claim 1 and a plurality of elongate sticks.

18. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 17 in which said plurality are elongate sticks comprises a variety of sticks of different lengths, cross sectional shapes, weight, longitudinal profile and or surface texture.

19-23 (Canceled)

24. (New) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the outer arm area is at least thirty percent (30%) greater than the footprint area.

25. (New) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the outer arm area is at least fifty percent (50%) greater than the footprint area.

26. (New) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the outer arm area is at least one hundred percent (100%) greater than the footprint area.